

**City of Lowell  
Adopt an Island Program  
Application Form**

**Date:**

**Name:**

**Organization:**

**E-mail:**

**Project Point Person (If different from above)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:**

**Phone Number:**

**E-mail:**

**Please use the space provided below to identify which island you would like to adopt and why. If you do not know the name of the island, please write its address or location.**

**What enhancements do you propose to make to this land?**

**Will the work be done by you or contracted out to private landscape company?**

**If contracted out, please provide name of the company.**

**What would you like to be written on the Adopt-an-Island Sign?**

**Please attach plan if applicable and fill out agreement below and mail to:**

**City Manager's Office, City Hall  
375 Merrimack St., Room 43  
Lowell, MA 01852**

**City of Lowell**  
**Adopt an Island Program**

**Guidelines**

The City of Lowell's Adopt and Island Program provides opportunities for companies, civic groups, institutions and individuals to adopt a traffic island or other public spaces and create attractive, welcoming 'oases' throughout the city.

The City of Lowell maintains a list of islands available for adoption and assigns spaces on a **first-come, first served basis** with prior year participants given first right to "readopt" the same space. Agreements for both options will be for three years.

Contact City Hall at (978)674-4402 to discuss ideas and submit an application.

Adopting an Island provides adopters the opportunity for hands-on beautification. This could range from basic mowing, weeding and litter control to more extensive efforts such as the planting of flowers. Once adopted, sponsors agree to create a simple landscape plan, monitor their public space and maintain it throughout the season as outlined below. Plantings need not be elaborate but should create an appealing natural element. Participants are encouraged to utilize high/low maintenance plants wherever possible.

Adopters will:

- Identify a traffic island or roadside area from the list of available sites that they wish to enhance and consider the type of improvements they want to propose.
- Purchase the plants and install according to plan or contract landscape company to do so.
- Install any plantings by the third week in May, maintain the bed until the first frost in October and clean up for overwintering.
- Utilize only natural materials; plastic, silk or other imitation plants, flowers or materials **will be removed**.
- Check for watering, litter removal and plant replacements as needed.
- Maintenance includes mowing, trash removal, weeding, watering, spreading of mulch where applicable and revitalizing and replenishing throughout the season.
- Where they might interfere with traffic safety, plants cannot exceed 24 inches in height or spread onto the roadway as they grow, or in any way obscure the visibility of passing drivers or pedestrians.

In return the City of Lowell will:

- Provide and install an "Adopt an Island" sign recognizing the adopter's efforts (**no other signs or signage will be allowed on an island or close cluster of islands**).
- Provide loam and mulch at the Public Works Department for pickup by adopters. Adopters must show certificate of program participation at time of pickup.
- Provide pickup of yard waste bags for end of season cleanup.

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**Agreement**

This document serves as an agreement between \_\_\_\_\_ and the City of Lowell.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to maintain the traffic island located at \_\_\_\_\_ for three (3) years or until I am no longer able to perform this duty. If I am unable to continue my duties as an Island Adopter, I will notify the City Manager's Office.

I further agree that the island will be maintained aesthetically and in accordance with all known safety regulations. In exchange for this service, the City of Lowell agrees to provide:

- An "Adopt an Island" sign recognizing my efforts.
- Mulch for pickup by Adopters at the Department of Public Works, 1365 Middlesex Street. Adopters must show certificate of program participation at time of pickup.
- Pickup of yard waste bags for end of season cleanup.

I understand that I will be given first option to re-adopt this island. I further understand that failure to properly maintain the above-mentioned traffic island as agreed will result in my forfeiture of the island and removal of any sign bearing my name or the name of my business or organization.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mulch Pickup Record**

**Date**

**Reason (initial cover; refresher)**

